



CHRISTIAN FAMILY & CHILDREN'S CENTER

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I am writing to you as the President of the Board of Directors of the Christian Family & Children's Center. We are praying that you will be called to support the current ministry expansions and the powerful work going on at the Center.

The Center continues to mature and share valuable experiences. Our organization has been involved in effective family ministry since 1981 with the same executive director and highly qualified, long term staff. We have attained experience that we can share with many around the country, and we are blessed to be in this position to support others in ministry.

Our executive director, Merle Skinner, has received his doctorate. This has added a level of credibility to the work that we do, and as we anticipated, doors are opening as a result.

Our work identifies needs and provides solutions. We are living in a culture that needs answers. As a Center, we are actively involved in school choice legislation, offering foundational, Christian counseling, and community outreach. If you take a look around, you can see a world desperate for help; help that we cannot provide without your support.

Many people do not fully understand the Center's mission and vision has always been much broader than a Christian school program. As we walk by faith, tackling the issues we face in our community and nationwide, doors have been opened to us. The Board's direction to Merle has been to move the Center into those larger playing fields, and we are strategically shifting focus to those areas. The challenge and the reason for this letter is to obtain funding for these new initiatives. Our budget is strong, but new initiatives take a toll until they are fully realized. Some of these efforts do not at times generate revenue, but provide significant Kingdom based outcomes.

Our strategic expanded initiatives include:

1. **Expanding the counseling programs** at the Center in intentional ways with the long term goal of developing resources that will support families and children. Dr. Murray Thompson, who is an experienced licensed clinical psychologist, has been the first to commit his gifts to helping develop this program which we anticipate will be a solid revenue producer for the Center over time. The initial work will require a good deal of upfront investment to take the next steps.
2. **Consulting with other ministries.** The goal of providing resources to other programs has always been part of our outreach. Outward investment in building up Christian ministries either through work directly with executives or with their boards to help them move forward in ministry is something that we believe we can do well.
3. Never has it been more important to tell the story of Christian based programming in the public sector. Merle has been a key building block in the Christian school community being more involved in Harrisburg, and is working to help get Christian schools more involved in many other states. In addition, he is working to help provide support to the Christian school early education movement as a part of his work with the Council on American Private Education (CAPE) and the Association of Christian Schools International (ACSI).

Educating...Equipping...Engaging the World for Christ

Merle has had the privilege to meet with high level officials at the US Department of Education, legislators in Washington, D.C. and our state capital, and other key leaders in public policy. There is the same type of opportunity developing in the world of Christian counseling.

All of these initiatives point towards significant cultural impact. They also carry a need for funding to seed and grow these programs. We know that the operational support of the Center cannot take the brunt of these costs and we will need to raise new money. We are looking for people like you that we think might have an understanding of the importance and timeliness of these opportunities for the expansion of the Center. Our prayer is that you act on your conviction and stand with us financially.

We believe that there are people like you who would choose to invest in the Kingdom. Our goal is to find 25 individuals who would invest between \$1000 and \$25,000 each this year. Of course, smaller gifts are important as well. We will take those dollars and stretch them to their fullest potential. You will help to change lives. We hope to hear from you. You can feel free to target your gift toward a specific area of this work if you like, or just put IMPACT on your check made out to the Center.

Expectantly,

ROY

Roy P. Laux, Board President Christian Family & Children's Center

P.S. Please feel free to contact either Merle or myself about these opportunities if you would like more information. Perhaps you might know of a small group that would like to hear about how they can invest in the Lord's work here at the Center!